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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

OFFICE OF EXPERIMENT STATIONS.

CIRCULAR No. 15.

INQUIRIES REGARDING INVESTIGATIONS IN BOTANY AT THE AGRICULTURAL
COLLEGES AND EXPERIMENT STATIONS.

JANUARY, 1890.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

OFFICE OF EXPERIMENT STATIONS.

To encourage and facilitate co-operation among Experiment Station workers and other investigators is one of the important duties of the Office of Experiment Stations. I take pleasure, therefore, in calling the attention of Botanists to this circular; and in bespeaking careful and prompt attention to the requests of the Committee.

W. O. ATWATER,
Director.

CIRCULAR OF INQUIRY.

TO BOTANISTS OF AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES AND EXPERIMENT STATIONS.



The leading question asked by the botanists in attendance upon the Washington meeting of the Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations was: "What are the other botanists doing?" And the most profitable session of the botanical workers was that in which personal experience was the topic under consideration.

With this thought in mind and a desire to enlarge upon it so that all interested can share in the benefits arising from such knowledge, a committee was appointed to prepare a bulletin of information for all botanical workers. To carry out this instruction the following list of questions has been prepared. The answers will form the material out of which the bulletin is to be made, and it is to be hoped that each botanist will give full replies and promptly return the same to the Office of Experiment Stations in the enclosed envelope.

BYRON D. HALSTED,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
F. LAMSON SCRIBNER,		
B. T. GALLOWAY.		

QUESTIONS.

1. What botanical problems appear to you to be of most immediate importance in your State?

2. Are you making plot experiments upon forage plants (especially the grasses) or upon other economic plants, with a view to improvement or introduction? If so, upon what plants?

3. Are you experimenting in cross-fertilization and hybridization in the hope of obtaining better knowledge of the laws that underlie the process?

4. Are you making a study of the influences of environment (soil, climate, seed-treatment, etc.,) upon the plant?

5. Do you make a special study of fungous diseases?

6. Are you prosecuting investigations upon the physiology of plants?

7. Are you making an herbarium of economic plants?

8. What will you have for exchange with fellow botanists?

9. Please indicate as far as may be what will be your leading work for next year, and what is the nature of the assistance you most desire from other botanists?

10. What lines of botanical work omitted in the above questions are you prosecuting?